THE BRITISH ESPERANTIST

The Official Organ of the British Esperanto Association

with which is incorporated International Language

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The
British Esperantist
THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE BRITISH ESPERANTO ASSOCIATION

Vol. XXXIV, No. 455/456 — MARCH/APRIL 1943

The British Esperanto Association (Incorporated)
ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1942

To be presented to the Members at the Annual General Meeting at Salt's Café, Nevill Street, Southport, on Saturday, 22nd May, 1943.

The Council are again in the fortunate position of being able to offer an encouraging Report to the members, and to record their satisfaction at the increasing interest in Esperanto manifested all over the country during the year under review, with resulting advantage to the Association and its future prospects.

The most striking figures in the Accounts, so far as the actual sums involved are concerned, will be seen to be the Subscription income and the Trading Profit, both of which show marked increases over 1941 and have evident significance for the progress of the movement. At £532 the Subscription figure is the best since 1936, and more than £50 in excess of that for 1941 : whilst the Trading Profit (£364) is £134 more than in the latter year, and is in fact the highest since 1930, the year of the Universal Congress at Oxford. The gross value of Sales was £1,351.

From the special point of view of the adequate study of Esperanto, noteworthy figures are those of the revenue from the Correspondence Courses, especially the "Standard" Courses organized by the Rev. W. J. Downes, the income from which was nearly £60 as compared with about £49 in 1941, whilst £19 was received from the new "Intermediate" Course which was introduced during 1942 to meet a felt need for a Course between the "Popular" and "Advanced" grades. The Council take this opportunity of voicing the gratitude of the Association to Mr. W. A. Gething for his work in devising this very useful Course, and their congratulations on its success.

In his Report on the "Standard" Courses, Mr. Downes says :—"The year has been remarkable for the number of students enrolled for the Advanced Course. Once again I pay my tribute of gratitude and appreciation to our loyal and hard-working band of tutors. When I think of the time and the high degree of competence demanded by the work they do, I can find no words adequate to express my admiration, and I am sure that our Association will not be slow either to acknowledge its indebtedness or to express its gratitude to them. We look forward to the continuance of success in 1943, and dare to hope that the record set up this year will be broken next".

The Council warmly associate themselves with the testimony of Mr. Downes, and again add their tribute of the highest appreciation to him as Hon. Organizing Secretary of the "Standard" Courses. They would

moreover express similar admiration for the devoted work of the tutors in the "Popular" and Intermediate Courses, whose assistance has enabled both these enterprises to succeed and expand. As mentioned in the Report for 1941, the finance of the "Popular" Course is at present not included in the published accounts, all proceeds being used for further advertising of the Course itself, together with the generous donations received from members for the Advertising Fund—which, it may be added, had amounted to £80 up to the end of 1942. Indirectly, however, through the enrolment of over 250 of the students as members, and through book sales, much benefit has already accrued to the Association, quite apart from the general publicity value of the enterprise.

A new edition of this Course was in preparation at the end of the year, and the Council desire to express the sincere thanks of the Association to Mr. Fred Wadham and Mr. W. A. Gething for their valuable help in this connection. The total number of students for the Course up to the end of 1942 was 1654, of whom 1152 were enrolled during the year. The value of the Course as a means of learning Esperanto rapidly, and of arousing interest in the movement, is well illustrated by the fact that several former students are now themselves acting as tutors, whilst others are conducting classes or in other ways promoting the spread of the language in their own localities. The Council heartily welcome the many who, as already mentioned, have joined the B.E.A., and trust that they may be long and successfully associated with the Esperanto movement.

From the Revenue Account it will be seen that the gross deficit (£170) was the same as in the previous year, and that—thanks to the generous support of the Guarantors—the net deficit was only £40. This is even less than the deficit of £48 in 1941, but (as in that year) the low figure is attributable to the special war-time arrangements with I.E.I.. for staffing and office work. In itself it therefore cannot be taken as a criterion for the time when normal conditions are resumed; but it is of good augury, the more so as it really should be compared with a figure of £98 for 1941, when—as also in 1940—the sum of £50 was drawn from the Sustentation Fund, whilst no withdrawal was made in 1942. Attention may be called to the fact that as a result of these withdrawals the Sustentation Fund now stands in the Balance Sheet at only £53.

It will be observed that a new item appears in the Balance Sheet, entitled "Dictaphone Account". This is due to the fact that a dictaphone, which was presented to the Association some years ago by a generous member and was in constant use until the war, was sold during the past year (in response to an appeal for such machines not actually in current use) and the proceeds (£45) were added to the Association's investment in the Co-operative Permanent Building Society, which thus appears in the Balance Sheet as £345 instead of £300. The £45 is earmarked for eventual use in the purchase of another dictaphone when circumstances permit.

The legacy of £100 mentioned under the heading "Capital Account" in the Balance Sheet took the form of the cancellation of a loan on the "Domo" in London. The Bank Loan on the "Domo" remains at the figure of £500 to which it was reduced in 1941; and as the Council consider that both the "Domo" itself and the Association's office furniture and equipment are markedly undervalued in view of present conditions, it is clear that the financial position is sound.

Turning to the direct propaganda activity of the year, the Council sincerely congratulate the Education Secretary, Mr. M. C. Butler, on the continued success of his important work in the schools, dealt with statistically elsewhere in this issue of the Journal. It is gratifying to note that the numbers of his school and other audiences were higher than in 1941; that the quantity of *Esperanto for Beginners* sold was practically the same as in 1938 (the last complete year under peace-time conditions); and that the direct financial results exceeded the figures for any previous year of Mr. Butler's touring work. In this connection it may again be emphasized that in addition to the donations shown in the Revenue Account (£31) Mr. Butler received a considerable sum in the form of direct contributions towards expenses, as well as generous private hospitality: the sum of £41 appearing in the Account as Expenses being (as there indicated) a resulting net figure only.

The position as regards the Petition to H.M. Government on the subject of Esperanto in the schools has already been stated in the Journal by the Acting Secretary, and little need be added here. A noteworthy feature was the strong support given to the Petition by the teaching profession itself. Whilst it may not be possible to look for immediate results from the enterprise, it forms a valuable addition to the many ways in which the attention of those in authority is now being called to the urgent need for an auxiliary tongue and for the encouragement of Esperanto teaching in the schools; and members may rest assured that in connection with this and other ways of placing the case for the language before those able to influence progress, the Council and Officers will continue to do all that appears feasible. Often, however, it is more useful for individual members to take such action as approaching Members of Parliament, or writing to the Press—in which latter direction much was done during 1942—rather than for the Association itself to do so officially, since action on its part may sometimes be considered as being of an "interested" nature and be undervalued accordingly.

The Propaganda Fortnight arranged in the autumn gave valuable results, particularly in certain places where special efforts were made by enterprising Groups or individuals. There was in general much effective local activity during the year, and, as previously indicated, a notable recovery took place in the membership of the Association. About 40 per cent. of the members were "individual members" of I.E.L., a proportion which, though it may well be increased in future years, is higher than before, and must be regarded as particularly encouraging from the point of view of the international organization, the stability of which it is at present the privilege of British Esperantists to assure. It will be noted from the Revenue Account that £368 accrued to I.E.L. as subscription income from the Association during the year; in 1941 the corresponding figure was £336 and in 1940 only £290.

The Annual General Meeting of the Association was held in Birmingham in May, and was well attended. A number of successful Federation Conferences were held during the year. Several new Groups affiliated to the Association, and a remarkable number of public and other classes was an encouraging feature of the autumn months. Many new Local Delegates were appointed, and in this and other ways normal collaboration with I.E.L. proceeded throughout the year to the benefit of both organizations. Contact and collaboration were also maintained with the Society of British Esperantist

REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1942

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Salaries				585	3	0
,, Rent of Library	13	10	0			
,, Rent at Heronsgate	48	0	0			
				61	10	0
,, 140 Holland Pk. Ave., W.11 (Domo)—						
Rates and Taxes	130	9	4			
Interest on Bank Loan ..	23	7	6			
Insurance and other sundries ..	23	3	5			
	177	0	3			
Less Rents received	46	14	0			
				130	6	3
,, Postage and Carriage				75	17	6
,, Printing and Stationery				93	12	7
,, Publicity				74	15	4
,, Office Expenses				63	12	0
,, Sundry Expenses				26	5	7
,, *The British Esperantist*, net cost ..				159	5	10
,, Motor Car and Propaganda Expenses (net)	41	14	11			
Less Donations to M.C. & P. Fund..	31	4	9			
				10	10	2
,, Depreciation				14	0	4
,, War Damage Insurance				20	18	0
,, Premises Fund				10	0	0
				£1,325	16	7

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
By Gross Profit on Trading				363	18	8
,, Membership Subscriptions ..	900	19	1			
Less paid to I.E.L.	368	9	4			
				532	9	9
,, Affiliation Fees				22	10	0
,, Donations (General Funds) ..				80	5	7
,, Examinations (net)				8	13	3
,, "Standard" Correspondence Courses (net)				59	16	5
,, Intermediate Course (net) ..				18	19	1
,, Interest (net)				69	3	6
				1155	16	3
,, Balance, being excess of Expenditure over Income for the year ..				170	0	4
				£1,325	16	7

	£	s.	d.
Gross Deficit	170	0	4
Less Guarantee Payments received in 1942	129	13	6
Net Deficit carried to Balance Sheet	£40	6	10

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1942

LIABILITIES	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Sundry Creditors—		
Deposit Accounts		207 12 11
Trade and Other Accounts ..		177 4 4
Loans		240 0 0
Loan on Premises—Barclays Bank Ltd.		500 0 0
Subscriptions in Advance—		
Membership	224 4 0	
Less paid to I.E.L.	93 13 1	
	130 10 11	
The British Esperantist	2 7 0	
Affiliation Fees	2 5 0	
		135 2 11
Bad Debts Reserve		12 14 4
Competitions Fund		16 0 7
Premises Fund		27 10 6
Motor Car Replacement Fund ..		147 10 0
Special Reserve		250 0 0
Sustentation Fund		53 9 3
Dictaphone Account		45 0 0
Capital Account—		
Balance on 1st January, 1942 ..	2344 13 5	
Life Subscriptions received ..	45 0 0	
Jubilee Fund transferred	65 4 5	
Legacy—Miss F. Horncastle ..	100 0 0	
	2554 17 10	
Less Net Deficit on Revenue Account	40 6 10	
		2514 11 0
		£4,326 15 10

ASSETS	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Cash—		
At Barclays Bank Ltd., Rickmansworth	126 4 4	
In Hand	8 15 9	
		135 0 1
Deposit at Co-operative Permanent Building Society		345 0 0
Sustentation Fund Account at Barclays Bank Ltd.		53 9 3
Sundry Debtors		227 13 0
Library		168 10 6
Stock on hand as certified by the Acting Secretary—		
Publications	380 10 6	
Examinations	13 5 6	
"Standard" Correspondence Courses	9 19 6	
		403 15 6
Premises at 140 Holland Park Avenue, W.11		2806 19 7
Office Equipment and Furniture ..		186 7 11
		£4,326 15 10

I have audited this Balance Sheet and I have obtained all the information and explanations I have required. In my opinion this Balance Sheet is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the affairs of the Association, according to the best of my information and the explanations given to me, and as shown by the books of the Association.

4th January, 1943. (*Signed*) H. MILSOM, F.C.I.S., A.T.I.I.

Teachers and the British Section of the Tutmonda Junular-Organizo, which are doing much valuable work among and on behalf of the younger section of the community and which the Council heartily congratulate on the progress of their enterprises.

It is of interest to mention that not only have many Groups and individual members of the Association been able, as in the two previous years, to make the acquaintance of Esperantists from other lands now in Britain on military service or other special duties, but that several of these *alilandaj samideanoj* have themselves joined the B.E.A., or in other ways shared the common task of propaganda and instruction. It may here be added that a noteworthy number of "Popular" Course students are members of H.M. Forces or Civil Defence organizations, and have thus special opportunities for spreading a knowledge of the movement among their colleagues ; this will have its due effect after the resumption of normal occupations in many varied walks of life.

The Council cannot conclude this review of a very encouraging year without expressing the great indebtedness of the Association to its Honorary Officers, and to its Acting Secretary, Mr. C. C. Goldsmith. On Mr. Goldsmith has once more fallen the heavy task of joint work for B.E.A. and I.E.L., and it is his enterprise and devotion that have secured results so excellent in themselves and so full of promise for the future. To that future the Council look forward with confidence. They believe that the Association is playing, and will continue to play, a vital part in preparing for it—not only in Britain but also in other lands, since by force of circumstances the Association remains at present the mainstay of the organized Esperanto movement.

The British Esperanto Association (Incorporated)

Registered Offices : 140, Holland Park Avenue, London, W.11.
Wartime Address : Esperanto House, Heronsgate, Rickmansworth, Herts.

ANNUAL CIRCULAR

Notice is hereby given that the Thirty-ninth Annual General Meeting of the British Esperanto Association (Incorporated) will be held on Saturday, 22nd May, 1943, at Salt's Café, Nevill Street, Southport, at 3 p.m. prompt.

AGENDA

(*a*) Receive the Annual Report of the Council.
(*b*) Receive the Annual Statement of Accounts and Balance Sheet.
(*c*) Receive the Report of the Secretary as Returning Officer on the Election of Officers and Ordinary Councillors.
(*d*) Elect one or more Auditors for the ensuing year.
(*e*) Consider as to place for holding the next Annual General Meeting.
(*f*) Consider the following Resolution: That as from January 1st, 1944, the annual subscription of an Ordinary Member shall be Six Shillings and that of a Junior Member Three Shillings (see page 23).
(*g*) Consider and, if necessary, take action with reference to any other business or motion of which due notice may have been given, or which the majority of those present and entitled to vote may determine to entertain, not being inconsistent with the Memorandum and Articles of Association.

Notice is hereby given that the first meeting of the new Council will be held immediately after the above meeting, at the same place, for the appointment of Sub-Committees and for other routine business.

CECIL C. GOLDSMITH
Acting Secretary

The following is a list of the present Council :—

President :
Miss Margaret Jay, M.A.

Vice-Presidents :
Prof. W. E. Collinson, M.A., PH.D.
Miss V. C. Nixon, B.A.
Robert Robertson, F.B.E.A.

Hon. Secretary :
Bernard Long, B.A.

Hon. Treasurer :
Arthur C. Oliver, F.B.E.A.

Ordinary Councillors :

Due to retire in 1943 :
E. D. Durrant,
Mrs. E. M. Kendrick,
W. K. Nash,
G. L. Preedy, F.C.I.S., F.I.A.A.,
Miss P. M. Strapps.

Due to retire in 1944 :
W. M. Appleby,
Miss E. Ashby,
Miss E. Chaundy,
Miss R. A. Davey,
Rev. W. J. Downes, M.A., B.D.

Due to retire in 1945 :
Miss J. Baird,
Miss M. L. Blake,
W. A. Gething, B.SC.
Miss E. C. Goldsmith,
H. W. Holmes.

Delegate Councillors :

GROUP COUNCILLORS—

Ashford (Middx.)	F. E. Knight
Birmingham and District	Miss E. M. Wheatley
Bristol	Miss S. Toogood
Cheltenham ..	L. G. Dore
Edinburgh ..	J. Marshall
Glasgow	G. Stewart
Huddersfield ..	W. H. Hirst
Ilford	Miss M. C. Groen
Leeds	Miss M. Langrick
Letchworth ..	P. J. Cameron
London (Central)	Mrs. N. Holmes
Balham ..	Miss A. Borel
North	H. Harris
Walthamstow ..	F. Ames
Newcastle-on-Tyne	F. Sutcliffe
Nottingham ..	Miss N. Wilford
Sheffield	H. Bramwell
Southport	L. Shipp
British League of Catholic Esperantists	H. P. Saunders

FEDERATION COUNCILLORS—

Eastern	Miss M. Cripps R. Murray
East Midland ..	R. Anderson Miss N. Wilford
Lancs. & Cheshire	W. B. Currie J. R. Grocott
North Eastern ..	F. Sutcliffe
Scottish	J. M. Baxter G. Stewart
Somerset and Glos.	W. T. Head Miss H. Mayne
South Midland ..	C. L. Hinton Miss S. V. Reed
South Wales and Mon.	Miss E. Baldwin-Smith L. Evans

Members of the Committees, etc. :

Executive Committee : The President, the Hon. Secretary, the Hon. Treasurer, Miss R. A. Davey, E. D. Durrant, Miss V. C. Nixon, R. Robertson, Mrs. E. Warren.

Correspondence Course Tutors : A panel of experienced teachers. Secretary : The Rev. W. J. Downes.

Education Committee : Miss V. C. Nixon (Sec.), M. C. Butler, Mrs. G. Cowper, B. Long, Miss G. H. Moxon, Nowell Smith, H. G. Toms.

Examiners : W. Bailey, Miss L. Briggs, Dr. D. R. Duncan, J. Farrand, Miss M. Jones, G. W. Roome, A. Venture.

L.B.E.A. Commission : M. C. Butler (Sec.), M. M. Du Merton, A. Venture, L.B.E.A.

Joint Examination Committee : The Controlling Examiners and Secretary of Commission.

I.E.L. Committee Members : D. Kennedy, B. Long, A. C. Oliver.

Hon. Solicitor : G. M. Hollis.

Hon. Secretary for Overseas : W. K. Nash.

Editor of the Journal : M. C. Butler.

Trustees of the Association : W. M. Appleby, J. R. Grocott, R. Robertson.

LIST OF NOMINATIONS

for the Election of Officers and Councillors, 1943–44

President :
Miss Margaret Jay, M.A.

Vice-Presidents :
Prof. W. E. Collinson, M.A., PH.D.
Miss V. C. Nixon, B.A., F.B.E.A.
Robert Robertson, F.B.E.A.

Honorary Secretary :
Bernard Long, B.A.

Honorary Treasurer :
Arthur C. Oliver, F.B.E.A.

Councillors :
E. D. Durrant, F.B.E.A.
Mrs. E. M. Kendrick, F.B.E.A.
W. K. Nash.
G. L. Preedy, F.C.I.S., F.B.E.A.
Miss P. M. Strapps.
Mrs. E. Warren.

As the number of nominations is the same as the number of places to be filled, no ballot is necessary.

ONE LANGUAGE AS A CURE FOR WAR

By SIR HUGH DOWDING, Commander-in-Chief of R.A.F. Fighter Command during the Battle of Britain

Is war a good thing or not ? This is not a purely rhetorical question, because there are those who think that war and training for war are necessary for the virility of the race, and that periods of continuous peace lead to softness, luxury, and decadence. The leaders of the Nazi and Fascist parties think thus, and there are those among our own statesmen who hold similar opinions, although they are less vocal. . . . If we think that war is good, we are in a happy position ; all we have to do is to refrain from action, and we are assured of an indefinite continuance of this beneficent institution. . . .

I venture to think, however, that among the Allied Nations the exponents of this theory constitute an altogether insignificent minority. . . . *We look past the flapping of the flags, the blare of the bands, and the cheering of the crowds, and see war as a hateful remedy for worse evils, into which we have been driven with extreme reluctance, but which we propose to see through to the bitter end. . . .*

How is it going to be possible to stop war ? I suggest that there are three possibilities, long, medium, and short-term.

If and when the standard of morality and unselfishness of the individual improves, this improvement will be reflected in the moral behaviour of the State. Then the lion will lie down with the lamb, and wars will cease throughout the world. I like to think that I am an optimist, but I am not such an optimist as to suppose that human nature will undergo any such transformation in a period within the horizon of our vision to-day. I may be wrong, I only hope that I am.

The short-term policy for the suppression of war lies in the operation of an international policy ; and probably some organization of this sort will be created after the present war. This system is not very practical, unless the nations contributing to the upkeep of the police force think alike, and continue to do so amid the stresses and strains which are certain to arise out of post-war problems. At best it amounts to half the world kept in subjection by the other half, and it can be expected to do little more than to give us a breathing space in which to set our house in order.

Is there a medium-term policy by which we may hope at any rate to reduce the probability of war within two or three generations ? I hope that there is.

In his imaginative masterpiece "With the Night Mail" Kipling creates an Aerial Board of Control, with the motto *Transportation is Civilisation.* This is a great truth, but only a half-truth. Communications involve mental contacts as well as physical transportation. A Londoner can now go to China more quickly than he could travel to Scotland a couple of centuries ago, but when he gets there he is a stranger among strangers. He is a "Foreign Devil", whose mental contacts must be made through an interpreter ; he cannot realize the atmosphere of Chinese life, nor can he convey to them more than a superficial impression of his own mentality. It is, in fact, easier for the British to maintain mental contact with New Zealand than with France.

And so it seems to me that an essential step in the creating of contact between nations and the enlargement of the political unit must be the creation of a common language in some shape or form. . . .

For some obscure reason protagonists of a universal language are commonly labelled Cranks. I don't know why this should be so, unless their proposals are so unpractical as to postulate that any nation should give up its own language and literature. But such a sacrifice is quite unnecessary.

What is there fantastic or impractical in the suggestion that every nation should teach in its schools its own language and *one* other—that one to be the same everywhere ? Some nations teach three or four languages in their schools as a matter of course.

The idea is simple enough in essence ; the tremendous difficulty lies in persuading nations to agree on the selection of a language. Absolute unanimity is desirable, but virtual unanimity is essential if the project is to be successful. I do not propose here to enter into a lengthy discussion on the choice of a common language, because that is a political question, depending not upon the abstract merits of the case, but upon what language nations can be persuaded to accept.

English, of course, is the language most widely spoken, but its spelling and pronunciation make it difficult to learn, and the Axis nations would probably offer bitter opposition to its adoption. *It is, indeed, possible that international jealousies would prevent the adoption of any important existing language.*

Other possibilities are the introduction of some artificial language such as Esperanto, or the adoption of one of the so-called dead languages (after an artificial enlargement of its vocabulary to make it an effective medium for the expression of modern thought). But, as I say, it is idle to discuss the question in the abstract. The solution depends on what the nations can be persuaded to accept, and that is essentially a political problem.

Perhaps readers have followed me so far with the kind of suppressed irritation which the cinema patron experiences when he is treated to the pep-propaganda of some Ministry instead of the gangster film which he has paid his money to see. But surely the benefits of a common language must be obvious to all. The most crass materialist must acknowledge its advantages to the traveller, the scientist, and the merchant ; and even the militarist has need for communication with his allies.

In telling us how to make hare soup, Mrs. Beeton opens her treatise with the words "First catch your hare", and recent talk about what we propose to do to other animals when we catch them may have been somewhat premature. But surely it is not too soon to devise some political organization through which general agreement may be sought on this problem, which is of basic importance to the future of the human race.

(*We thank* "The Sunday Chronicle" *for kind permission to publish these extracts from an article which appeared in that paper on* 13 *Dec.* 1942).

LOCAL NEWS

Bristol—*Classes : Adv.*, 7.30 (Norman Lock) ; *Int.*, 7.15 (G. B. Tordoff) ; *Choir :* 6.0–7.0 (R. Tovey). All Mon., at Folk House, College Green. Also *Elem. Class*, Thurs., 6.45 (G. B. Tordoff).

Burnley—Mr. F. Parker addressed the Rotary Club, 25 Jan.

Edinburgh—Annual General Meeting, 10 April.

Leicester—Meetings 2nd and 4th Thurs., 7.0, at 40 Equity St. Visitors invited.

Londona Diservo (72 Bishopsgate, E.C.1). Mar. 14, Apr. 11, **je 3.30.**

London Club (153 Drummond St., N.W.1). *Meetings : Fridays* (6.30) : Mar. 5, 19, 26 ; Apr. 2, 16, 30 ; *Saturdays* (3.0) : Mar. 13, Apr. 10 (Tea and Dance, 1/–).

Manchester—*New Classes* (*Elem.* and *Int.*) on Saturdays ; *Group Meetings* 27 March and 24 April. All 2.30, at 39 High St., M/c 4.

Newcastle—*Study* 7–8, *Group* 8–9. Tues., 66 Jesmond Rd.

Nottingham—On 18 Dec. Mr. R. H. Fletcher addressed Toc H. Question time extended from ½-hour to 1½ hours ; a sign of real interest. 19 Dec., Christmas party with E.M. Federation.

Parkstone—The group is flourishing. New Class at the Grammar School, Fri., 7.0.

Southend—Mr. D. P. Boatman addressed the Rotary Club 26 Jan.

S. Wales and Mon.—*Federation Conference :* 20 March, at Central Y.M.C.A., Cardiff.

Woolwich—*New Class* (22 members), Mon., at the Social Club, Royal Arsenal Sports Assn. This resulted from a chance enquiry about the star worn by the teacher (Mr. E. R. Penny).

OPEN-AIR PROPAGANDA IN LONDON

London Esperantists are holding meetings in Hyde Park and perhaps elsewhere. Help from competent speakers, or from those who could attend and give moral support, is urgently needed. Write Mr. Colin Evans, 10 St. Philips Place, London, W.2. (Tel : PADdington 9545).

Radio Queries Service—Readers of B.E. who have problems connected with Radio, particularly S.W. and long-distance reception, may obtain free advice from our member F. G. Rayer, Hillworth Court, Longdon, Gloucester. Mark envelopes "B.E. Queries", and *please* enclose return postage or stamped addressed envelope.

Sir Richard Gregory, *former President of the British Association, when addressing the Association of Special Libraries and Information* ***Bureaux*** *on* 7 *Nov.* 1942, *said :*

Among important international problems facing us now and after the war is a means of expression in a language easily learnt and used by all civilized peoples of the world.

The international Morse code is an example of an accepted system of alphabetical and numerical communication. What is wanted is an auxiliary vehicle of language which will be as widely understood.

In the interest of international communication and the free expression of ideas, it is to be hoped that academic as well as scientific and commercial organizations will assist in the movement towards an agreed auxiliary language. There is no better way of promoting inter-relationships between the peoples of the world than that of a simple common language.

LECTURES GIVEN, 1941-2

	1941	1942
VISITS PAID—		
Schools ..	65	76
Other Meetings	54	51
	119	127
ATTENDANCE—		
Children ..	9,829	11,320
Teachers ..	337	421
Training College Students ..	383	110
	10,549	11,851
Other Meetings	1,236	1,085
Total ..	11,785	12,936
AVERAGE ATTENDANCE—		
Schools ..	162	156
Other Meetings	23	21
RECEIPTS AT LECTURES—		
"Esp. for Begin's"	6,345	7,828
(Value) ..	£52 17 6	£67 6 0
Other Sales ..	£22 10 6	£26 18 0
Local Cont'ns. to Expenses	£29 5 11	£33 4 2
Total Receipts	£104 13 11	£127 8 2

POINTS TO NOTE

(*a*) General increase.

(*b*) Nothing was done from October to December, 1942, owing to lack of invitations and to illness.

(*c*) 7,326 at 2d.; 500 at 3d.

(*d*) Invitations for future lectures would be welcomed. The best results are shown when local friends book a week or a fortnight provisionally, and circularize local schools or other bodies likely to be interested. It is generally easy to fill several days with engagements in this way, **provided that (1) arrangements are commenced two or three months previously, (2) use is made of the literature I can supply for the purpose, and (3) some one friend acts as a local centre for the arrangement of the itinerary.**

M. C. BUTLER

"What should the B.E. contain?" (p. 2). Replies received mostly ask for (*a*) More musical pages (now financially impossible) and (*b*) More articles about the language.

R.S.A. Exam. (July 6). Note the last date for entries: 19 April (*London*: 15 May, Applications by mid-March). See last issue, p. 10).

GOOD NEWS!

We are happy to announce that the copyright of the Millidge *Esperanto–English Dictionary* has been acquired by the Esperanto Publishing Co. Ltd., and that in spite of war-time difficulties it has been found possible to reprint this valuable work. Unfortunately the price has had to be raised to 12/–. But no serious student will begrudge this expense to obtain what is still the best Esperanto–English dictionary extant.

We related in the B.E. (1941, p. 34) how the precious MS. of an enlarged and revised edition of this work—the fruit of many years' unremitting toil—was destroyed by the bomb which at the same time took the life of the author. Mr. Millidge would obviously be the first to agree that the present volume, which is an almost unchanged reprint of the 1924 edition, needs bringing up to date. Under present circumstances, however, this work must be postponed. And who can be found with the brilliance and the erudition of Millidge to do it worthily?

But the publishers have at least done one thing that was badly needed: they have appended in clear type an up-to-date list of all the roots (about 900) officialized by the *Lingva Komitato* from 1919 to 1935 inclusive, and not noted in the text as official. The 28 official roots not already in the dictionary are added in a separate list.

Rk is now an officially recognized alternative for **rĥ. Abstìn, albin, aŭtonom, inaŭgur, konker, pleb, tost,** replace *abstemi, abstinenc, albinos, aŭtonomi, inaŭguraci, konkir, plebej, toast.* The other added words are **bilet, blokad, brems, gramofon, greg, inund, konfekci, merkat, plur-aj** (=*pli ol unu*), **provok** (=*provoke, defy, challenge*), **rezist, sekur, social, streb, ŝpat, trafik, tragik, uzur, valid, var.** We may regard **idealism** and **realism** as formations with **ism,** rather than as independent roots.

"La Rondo Familia" is the organ of the Federation in Som., Glos., and W. Midlands. The December issue (6d., from Miss Mayne, Tarlton, Cirencester, Glos.) is a well-printed literary production full of good things.

Donacoj al B.E.A. Biblioteko. — D-ro Blackett, Kol. Robinson, S. Taylor, libroj. *Kingstona Rondiranto*, 5/–. Koran dankon.

"Headway."—Recent numbers have contained excellent letters in support of Esperanto.

Dagenham.—*Class*, Fridays, 8, at Dockers' Settlement, Heathway. *Teacher*: W. Green.

The Annual Subscription

It will be seen from the Agenda of the Annual General Meeting on a previous page that the members will have before them at Southport a proposal to raise the annual subscription of an Ordinary Member to 6s. as from January 1st next, and that of a Junior Member to 3s.

In view of the satisfactory Report for 1942 published in this issue of the Journal, and the present healthy state of our finances, which might seem to make any such step unnecessary, it is desirable to explain the reasons for the suggestion, so that the members who vote on it at Southport may clearly understand the position.

First let me say that the object of those responsible for the proposal is to safeguard our future. When the Association returns to its home in London (which will be as soon as practicable after the war) and again has its separate Secretary and staff, it will at once be faced with a very large and unavoidable increase in expenditure; and any saving on items that will no longer feature in our outgoings (such as rent at Heronsgate) will be offset by additional office expenses and other charges. At the lowest estimate we shall have to find £300 annually for expenditure *over and above the present war-time figures*—which, as mentioned in the Annual Report, are only kept low by the joint working with I.E.L. that has gone on since the autumn of 1939 but will cease after the war, when I.E.L. will be resuming its own full activities.

With our present income, the meeting of this extra expenditure is manifestly impossible—to say nothing of allowing us eventually to revert to the monthly publication of the Journal after the paper supply has returned to normal. Though at present the membership is on the up-grade and book sales are still increasing, it is problematical to what extent these items will ensure a sufficient income under the new conditions (for no one wants to see again the heavy annual net deficits of pre-war years) and a shilling increase in the subscription would considerably help in this direction. If, again, war-time conditions should last beyond 1944, and a surplus therefore possibly accrue through the increased payments of members, this would provide a useful nest-egg towards the extra expenses consequent upon the eventual return to full-scale working.

The raising of the subscription by the suggested 20 per cent. would be one way of spreading the burden of what may be called an increased "cost of living" over the membership in general, instead of laying it all on the shoulders of generous donors—whose help will doubtless be needed in any case, as at present. It is fully realised that for many Esperantists even the present subscription is too much (especially when they are already supporting Groups or other local activities), but it is felt that the great majority of our existing members, and of those who would decide to join us in future on the present 5s. basis, would readily pay the extra 1s. per annum in view of what has been explained above.

Another very important point must be mentioned in conclusion, viz., that the present subscription of 5s. is *the same as when the Association was founded in* 1904. Since that time there have been two great wars, and salary levels and costs generally are much above the standard then prevailing. Without adequate and competent staffing, and scope for expansion, our Association will not be able after the war to do its work properly; and it evidently rests with the members to ensure for their organization the maximum possible efficiency, as a centre both of Esperanto life in general and its missionary activity in particular.

BERNARD LONG

Scottish Congress—This will be held 29 May at West Scotland Commercial College, Pitt St., Glasgow. Fee 1/-, Lunch 3/-, Tea 2/-. Write early to Miss Dougall, 46 Titwood Rd., Glasgow S.1.

S.B.E.T. Konferenco (1–4 Jan., Jordans, Bucks.) Ni povas nur telegrafece resumi. 1942 *raporto*: tre kontentiga. "*Mia Unua Esperanta Libro*" jam duone elvendiĝis. Eldoniĝos "Mia Dua Libro". *School Vocabulary*: Komitato preparas liston de vortoj infanvivaj. *Prelegoj* de Green, Osmotherley, Butler, pri *La Esperanta Verbo*; *E. nun kaj post la milito*; *Esperanta Stilo*.

NASKIĜO

Howard—Je 19 Januaro, en Rickmansworth, al Edmund kaj Katharine Elizabeth Howard (naskita Osmond), filino, nomita Margaret Elizabeth.

MORTOJ

Buxton—Je 16 Decembro, Charles Roden Buxton, 67-jara. Konata reformisto, politikisto, kaj aŭtoro, li estis Prezidento de la Kvakera Esperantista Societo kaj fervora samideano.

Emmott—Je 31 Jan., Mr. Smith Emmott, 78-jara, en Sowerby Bridge.

Sidebottom.—Je 17 Feb., F-ino E. A. Sidebottom, Manchester, F.B.E.A., kaj Patrono de I.E.L., ŝi malavare subtenis nian movadon kaj bone laboris por ĝi.

Official Notices

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Sustentation Fund—Mrs. M. C. Gillett, £6.

These donations are acknowledged with grateful thanks.

B.E.A. EXAMINATION SUCCESSES

Preliminary—*E. G. M. Collis, *Harrow Weald*; L. I. Gentle, *London, N.20.*

Diploma—*A. G. Chatterton, *Hobart, Tasmania*; K. W. J. Coleman, *Nottingham*; *C. E. P. Ecker, *Breaston*; *C. Evans, B.A., *London, W.2.*

Advanced by Correspondence—*F. C. Allen, *Upton, Dorset*; *Miss C. W. Hudson, *Seaham*; *G. R. Primavesi, *Epsom Downs*; Mrs. K. R. Schwerin, *Sydney, Australia*; *P. E. Schwerin, *Sydney, Australia.*

* *With Distinction*

MEMBERS SERVING IN H.M. FORCES

Members serving in His Majesty's Forces are asked to register with the Association a permanent address, such as their home address or that of a relative, from which they are certain that letters and other communications will be forwarded to them. They are specially asked not to register military addresses, since these may be subject to frequent changes.

CECIL C. GOLDSMITH, *Acting Secretary*

Council Meeting

February 6th, 1943

Present :—The President (in the Chair), the Hon. Secretary, the Hon. Treasurer, R. Anderson, Miss B. Ashby, Miss M. L. Blake, Miss A. S. Borel, Miss R. A. Davey, E. D. Durrant, Miss E. C. Goldsmith, H. J. Harris, C. L. Hinton, Mrs. N. Holmes, Mrs. E. M. Kendrick, R. Murray, W. K. Nash, Miss V. C. Nixon, G. L. Preedy, Miss S. V. Reed, H. P. Saunders, Miss P. M. Strapps, Miss E. M. Wheatley.

In attendance :—The Acting Secretary, the Education Secretary.

Ballot List—No nominations had been received from the membership, and the Council accordingly drew up a list of Officers and six Ordinary Councillors for election.

Annual Meeting, 1943—The Council approved arrangements which had been made by the Officers, following an invitation from the Lancashire and Cheshire Federation, to hold the meeting at Southport on May 22nd.

Licentiate Commission—It was reported that Mr. Fred Wadham, Secretary of the Commission, had transferred his duties to Mr. Butler (in accordance with an arrangement made at the previous Council Meeting) as he expected shortly to be joining H.M. Forces. The Council appointed Mr. Alec Venture, L.B.E.A., as a member of the Commission in place of Mr. Wadham.

B.E.A. Representation on the Committee of I.E.L.—Attention was called to the fact that the membership of the Association was now well over 2,000, and it was therefore possible for it to appoint a third member of the I.E.L. Committee. The Council accordingly appointed to this office Mr. David Kennedy, M.A., of Glasgow.

Accounts and Annual Report for 1942—The audited Accounts were discussed and accepted, and a draft Report submitted by the Officers was adopted after minor alterations and passed for publication.

Annual Subscription—The Council was asked to consider the placing before the members at Southport of a suggestion to increase the annual subscription of an Ordinary Member to 6s. and that of a Junior Member to 3s., as from January 1st, 1944. The reasons advanced for this step were fully discussed, and it was decided to include the item in the Agenda of the Annual Meeting.

Notes from the Office

The A.G.M. in Southport—As announced on another page, the Annual General Meeting will be held in Southport on May 22nd. After the meeting tea will be provided at a cost of 3/– per head, and those who desire tea **must** inform Miss C. Liversidge, 60, Norwood Avenue, Southport, not later than May 15th. (If vegetarian, this should be stated).

After tea there will be a meeting of the Council, and during the evening there will be a social function arranged by the Southport Society in conjunction with the Lancashire and Cheshire Federation. A light supper will be obtainable at 1/– per head.

Those who desire accommodation for one or more nights should let Miss Liversidge know as early as possible, stating full requirements, and enclosing a stamped addressed envelope for reply. Bed and breakfast can be obtained from 5/6 per night upwards. The local Society will entertain those staying over the week-end.

R.S.A. Examination—It is of great importance to secure a good number of entries for this examination, and Groups and Members are reminded that the closing date for entries is drawing near. Full particulars are given on page 10 of our last issue. See also page 22.

Books—More and more titles are disappearing from our shelves, and most of the books published abroad have all gone. Even those published in this country are now disappearing, and the only edition of *La Biblio* now available is the 6/– one.

On the other hand, *Millidge's Dictionary* is again in stock, and there is good hope that we shall be able to reprint *Step by Step in Esperanto* before long. The Esperanto Publishing Company now has in the press a new Epoko book, the title being *Sep Vangofrapoj*. It is by a Hungarian author, Karlo Aszlányi, and has been translated by Ladislao Spierer, the translator of *La Knaboj de Paŭlo-Strato*. Owing to heavy increases in the price of paper and printing the price will be 3/–, postage 3d. It will probably be ready about the middle of April, and is just the type of light reading suitable for these days. C.C.G.

Small Announcements

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MANUSCRIPTS *should be typewritten, and addressed to* THE EDITOR. *The Editor is not necessarily in agreement with views expressed in signed articles, but accepts responsibility for those unsigned. He reserves the right to refuse, correct, or shorten contributions received. Matter should be received by the 8th of the month.*